

ALDERMEN VS. CIVIL SERVICE.

WILL THE BOARD SUSTAIN THE ACTION
OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE?

THE MATTER TO BE DISPOSED OF NEXT MORNING
—PUBLIC SENTIMENT CONDEMNS THE
COMMITTEE—ITS ACTION A NEW
DEPARTURE.
Considerable miscomprehension exists regarding

of Aldermen in the appropriation for the Civil Service Commission. It has been represented that the action of the committee on Monday in cutting the amount allowed for the Commission for the year 1887 from \$15,000 to \$5,000, was the action of the Board itself, and that the action was not that of the committee. The truth is that it was the action of the committee which was approved by the Board, and its report was not presented at the meeting of the Board on the afternoon of that day. It will be presented at the meeting of the Common Council next Monday.

Some people are asking themselves and their friends how it is that the Aldermen have anything to do with the budget. The answer is that the question is easy. The action is ordered by the city council, and the budget after it has been completed by the Board of Estimate, which does all the work of preparing it, and they have full authority to reduce any item or items in it; but they have no power to increase the appropriation for any purpose. Usually their action is a mere formality, for it is contrary to the habit and disposition of Aldermen to increase anything, and any action to be drawn from the city treasury.

The action of the Budget Committee on Monday is looked upon as a new departure. An old habitué of the City Hall said yesterday that in his experience, extending over many years, he could recall no occasion on which the Aldermen had reduced any amount set apart by the Board of Estimate for the preparation of the budget. The fact is, however, there is no appeal from their decision, and no power exists to revise the budget further, and final action on it has to be taken by law early in

The question of interest now is: Will the Board at its meeting next Monday confirm the action of the Budget Committee? Public sentiment has already declared itself in opposition to such a course, and all intelligent citizens who recognize the benefits of the civil service system believe that the Commissioners should be liberally supported. As a matter of fact, he is familiar with the operations of the Civil Service Commission, and he expressed the general sentiment when he said yesterday:

"I do not believe it is possible that the Common Council will approve the action of the committee in cutting down this appropriation. The Constitution of the State requires the enforcement of the Civil Service principle in all appointments in the public service of the State and of all the civil divisions thereof. Now, it is absurd to suppose that Civil Service cannot be carried into effect if the officials charged with that duty have no money at their dis-

The Aldermen as a whole will act on this matter at their next meeting. In the meantime public opinion should be aroused to bear down upon them with such force as to make the inborsement of the committee's action an impossibility. After the Aldermen once act there is no power on earth which can restore that appropriation. The charter gives them absolute authority, and if they should wipe out the appropriation for this or any other purpose altogether there would be no way of staying their hands. The committee has acted out of revenge, because the members have been unable to get their friends appointed to fat jobs. It is a gross insult to the public, and it was done simply to annoy men of a different stamp from most of the Aldermen—men who are willing for the public good to give time and labor to the thankless task of administering the Civil Service law.

that the commissioners will go ahead with their work as if nothing had happened, and then in the next Legislature a bill will be introduced to make up the deficiency in their funds. That is the course that was taken last winter, when a bill was passed giving them not to exceed \$100,000. The matter was left to the discretion of the Board of Commissioners, and the Board of Commissioners was about \$3,500. The work of the Commission will go right along, and the sentiment of the people is so confident that that sentiment is strong enough to keep the Board of Aldermen from such petty action as the Budget Committee has been guilty of.

Q. The question asked for by the Civil Service Commission was considerably, and unwisely, in my judgment, reduced by the Legislature.

on its work as it should be done, \$25,000 is not too much, and the cutting of the item to a beggarly \$3,000 is simply preposterous. This is the first time, in my recollection, that the Board has refused to allow an item allowed by the Board of Estimate, and I feel assured that it will not succeed."

The Civil Service Commission is going right along with its work as if the Aikman, who composes the Committee on Budget had not attempted to cripple it by cutting down its appropriation. The amount allowed is not sufficient to pay the sala-

or dire means, if it proceeds in its usually economical manner. Then when the money is gone, if the office should be closed up the Commission will have thrown the responsibility upon the shoulders of the Aldermen.

When a vote is taken much interest will be evinced as to how the Democratic members of the Board vote. The Democrats have the power of keeping the allowance at \$2,000 for the Civil Service Commission, and they are in league with those of the Republican members who are against the movement to starve the Commission.

Friends of the Commission say that the pretence of the Budget Committee that it was trying to be

Lists have been closed for examinations for the following places: Machinists, clerk of vital statistics, stenographers and typewriters, detectives, surveying inspectors, caulkers, inspectors of railroad, repairs and assistant sanitary engineers.

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TWO CONGRESSMEN INDORSED.

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AN ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING OF THE TWENTY-THIRD WARD REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION.

The Twenty-third Ward Republican Association met Tuesday night at Decorator Hall, Gates-ave. near Reid-ave. The chair was occupied by the president, Walter B. Atterbury. Resolutions were

Francis H. Olson and Israel F. Fischer, their districts taking in parts of the ward. Dr. Burdick strongly urged that Mr. Wilson be sent again to represent the district in Congress. He said that James G. Blaine and a number of other men were brought into prominence because they were sent to Congress in the first term. Massachusetts had followed this plan, but in this year, he said, and always been derelict in this respect. He said that the district should send Francis H. Wilson to Congress again, and that his second term would be far more successful than his first one was. Captain Elliott spoke in the same vein, and Mr. Wentz moved that Congressman Israel F. Fischer's name be included, and this was done, the resolution being carried with only one dissenting vote.

Resolution No. 2, which was introduced by Maine and Vermont on their victories, the names of the Vermonters were received with applause. Deputy Fire Commissioner C. J. Smith, of Portland, presided at the meeting. Indorse the nominees of the Saratoga Com-

NEW NAMES FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.
The Council of Associate Members of the Brooklyn Institute has begun its fall meeting. Dr. Charles E. Emery, of the department of engineering, in the absence of Dr. Lyman Abbott, presided

have been proposed for associate membership, and Mr. H. has been upon by the trustees of the Institute at their next meeting: Clinton L. Rosdier, Jackson, W. G. George, J. E. Fahy, Mrs. Bertha A. Fahy, Frederic A. Ward, Mrs. Edward B. Wilcox, Mrs. James E. Hollingshead, G. I. Behrens, Joseph Con- way, Louis McDonald, Randolph Nexson, Dr. Paul Kunzer, Mrs. E. L. Cole, Miss D. de Forest Long, H. E. Distelhorst, the Hon. Edward C. Brennan, Taylor, August Lewis, Mrs. August Lewis, Mrs. Mrs. A. H. Brockway, William J. Harding, Dr. T. Bristol, Alexander M. Kinney, Charles S. Philips, Henry M. Condon, Thomas Graham, Edward Taylor, Mary K. Covert, L. W. Lawrence, Mrs. Mary J. Hale, Miss Ada E. Wiles, Mrs. John B. Woodward, Mrs. John B. Woodward, Mrs. John B. Woodward, Holmelynn, James Ridgway, George W. Major, Charles F. Bullock, H. Rachell, Charles B. Gray, Mrs. John B. Woodward, Mrs. John B. Woodward, Hertzog, J. Carledge, Jr., T. L. Van Nordon, Julia